

Docket Number F-3278

Patent

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Skeem, et al

Serial Number: 08/616,538

Examiner: G.Nguyen

Filed: 3/15/96

Group Art Unit: 3203

For: Metal Single Layer Abrasive Having a Contoured Cutting Surface

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

<u>DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR Section 1.132</u> <u>of Inventor Sergej-Tomislav Buljan</u>

- I am a named inventor of the above-captioned patent application and I make this declaration in support of the patentability of the application over cited references U.S. Pat. No. 5,018,276 to Asada ("Asada") and U.S. Pat. No. 5,215,072 to Scott ("Scott").
- 2. I have a PhD in Solid State Science from The Pennsylvania State University, and over 30 years of experience in research and development working with a variety of materials. I presently hold the position of Manager, Metal Bond Research and Development, Superabrasives, at Norton Company where I have worked in research and development relating to superabrasives and metal bonded cutting and grinding tool technologies for over 4 years.
- 3. Attached to my declaration are copies of laboratory notebook MB8.1, pages 112-114, 147-9 and 159, evidencing an experimental comparison of the grinding performance of two diamond abrasive grinding tools carried out under my supervision. The

performance is shown graphically on page 159 where the electroplated tool data points are depicted in the lower line with a diamond and the brazed single layer tools are depicted in the upper line with a square. From this graph one would conclude that although both tools contain the same size and concentration of diamond abrasive in a metal bond, the electroplated tool initially removes less substrate and rapidly loses effectiveness in comparison to a brazed single layer tools made with a bronze braze that is chemically bonded to the diamond abrasive.

- 4. In my opinion, the inferior performance of the electroplated tool is due to the much weaker mechanical attachment between the abrasive and the substrate created in the electroplated tool relative to the much stronger chemical bond between the abrasive and the substrate created in the brazed tool made with a chemically active braze.
- 5. I expect such performance differences to occur in grinding tools, cutting tools, polishing tools, chain saws, drilling tools or other tools containing diamond abrasive grains whenever the grains are electroplated rather than chemically bonded to the tool substrate.
- 6. The Asada tools may be distinguished from the tools of the invention and are expected to have inferior performance in comparison with the tools of the invention because the Asada tools contain electroplated diamond abrasive and do not contain chemically bonded diamond abrasive.
- 7. The Scott tools are expected to have inferior performance in comparison with the tools of the invention because the Scott tools do not contain diamond abrasive chemically bonded to the mesh of the substrate.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that the statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are

punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

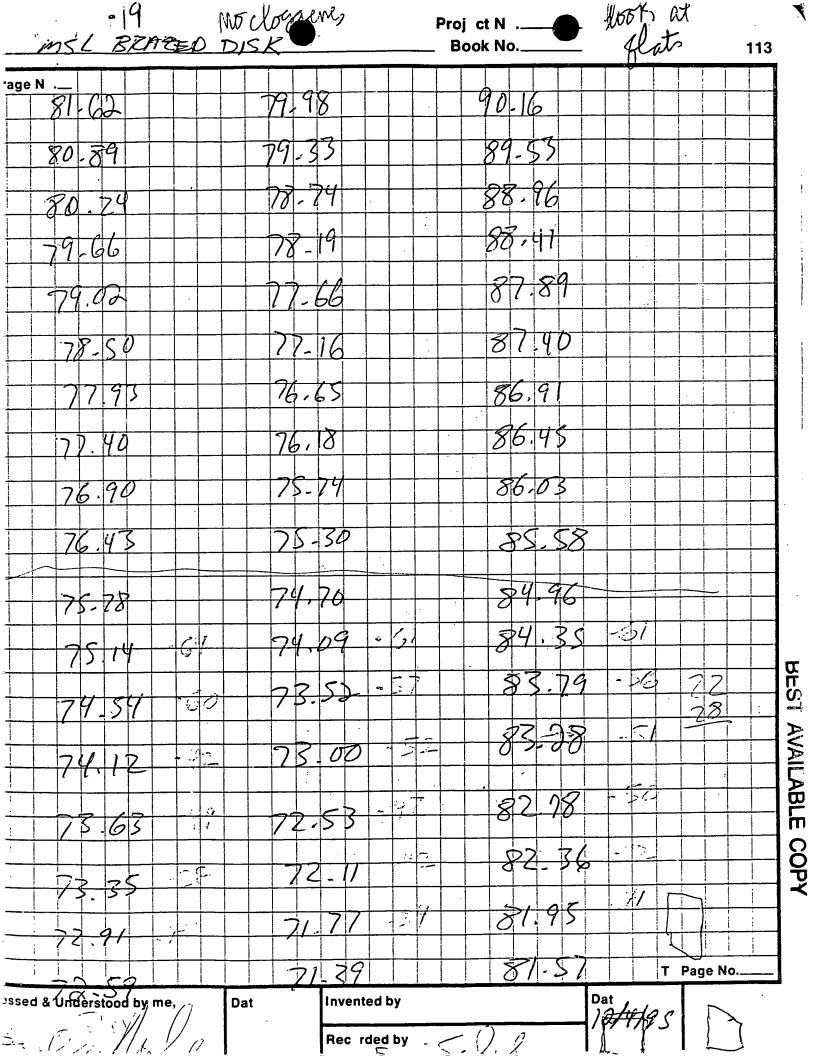
Sergej-Tomislav Buljan, PhD

Date: $\sqrt{29/97}$

Norton Company 1 New Bond Street Box Number 15138 Worcester, Massachusetts 01615-0138

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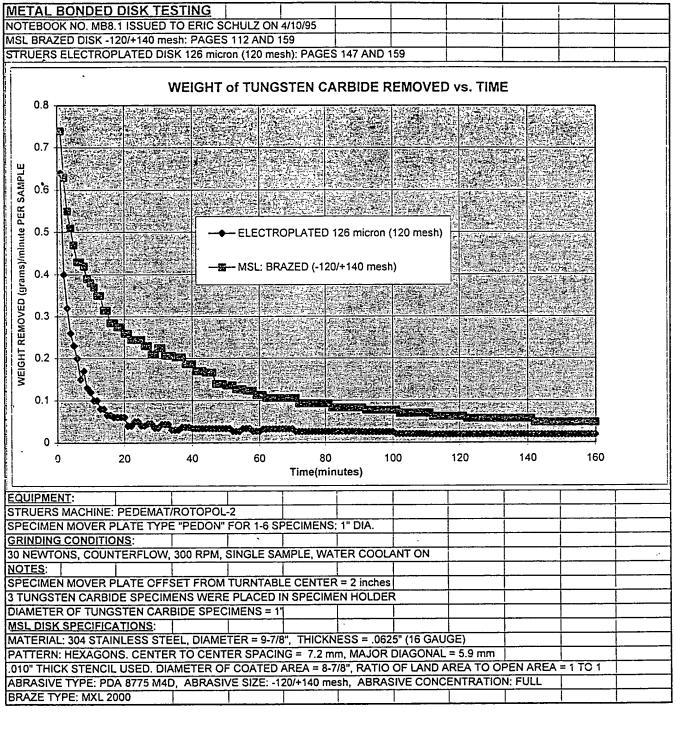
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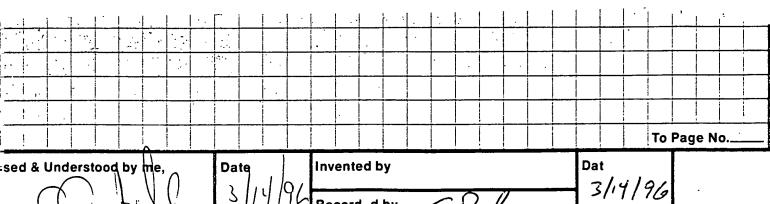
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